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WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Allen County Public Library
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No. 10.

Head Quarters

Huron Oct. 24th. 1812

Dear [illegible]th.

Sir,

Your letter of the 10th. Instant was read by express last evening. I shall without a moments delay comply with the requisitions therein contained. I feel it a duty incumbent on me to make you acquainted in some measure with the situation of my detachment. The extent of lines which required guards from my detachment exceeded 150 miles, at this place between four and five hundred men have been placed, of those a very considerable part, by sickness and death, have been discharged, and new drafts ordered. You may be acquainted with the extent of my division, more than 110 miles square, almost the whole of this extent is inhabited. My detachment is taken from the drafts of the 100,000 militia ordered by the President.

After my detachment is completed, I must ask the question, how and in what manner are the heavy bills of expence that have accrued in this business to be destroyed, I have spared no pains to effect the object and involved myself and it may be my ruin, should government neglect me. I have, and still continue to place, the greatest confidence in the present administration -- have had the strongest assurances (verbally from Mr. Huntington) for my support.

Very respectfully I remain Your Obedt. Servt.

(Signed) Elijah Wadsworth

Majr. Genl. 4th. Divn. Ohio Milia.

[illegible]

[illegible] the Northern [illegible].

News of a local nature I have none. The sickness in this town has almost disappeared [illegible] entirely. [illegible] at School in Church [illegible] was buried on Thursday. [illegible] The season is very wet & cold. Corn looks [illegible], the English grains look well. I hope you are not in danger from Indians or other [illegible] and allies the [illegible]. Write me without any delay & frequently

Your Brother

Samuel

[To Ensign Church]

[illegible]

September 4th 1812

Dear Brother,

Agonized by hope & fear concerning the fate of the [illegible] I sit myself down to write away my trepidation. Yesterday an account in the Albany paper [illegible] from a Canada paper, [illegible] the [illegible] news of Hulls defeat; with the Federalists of the [illegible] order it met with a very welcome reception; [illegible] with the Republicans it was evil tidings indeed. To day while all were mourning the fate of our [illegible] fellow citizens, our [illegible] papers from Hartford [illegible] a [illegible] official account of the surrender of Fort Malden to Gen. Hull; [illegible] contradictory, we know not what to think or believe. God

[illegible] shall [illegible] to [illegible] to protect the lives and property of the inhabitants in case any [illegible] the territory which has [illegible] be [illegible] The [illegible] is [illegible] of the [illegible] the govern-ment shall [illegible] on this application. [illegible] I refer you to Mr. [illegible] Col. [illegible] on whose [illegible] situation the most implicit confidence can be placed.

I pray you sir to afford us that assistance [illegible] our defenceless situation requires, and to be [illegible] by the return of Mr. [illegible] the measures you shall deem proper to adopt.

I am your Obedient Humble Servant

(Signed) Elijah Wadsworth Maj. Genl.

4th. Division

2 [illegible]

Head Quarters Camp at

Cleveland August 27 1812

Honble. William Eustis Secretary at War.

Sir.

I have the Honor to inform you that on the 22d. Inst. I received information by express from this place of the surrender of the North-western Army and the Fort at Detroit to the British by General Hull on the 16th. Inst. A copy of the Articles of Capitulation I send inclosed. Considering the defenceless situation of the Western Frontier, [illegible] compelled me instantly to issue orders to the several Commanding officers of the Brigades under my command, to detach their drafts [illegible] amount of [illegible] 1,000 militia. On the 23d. I marched with a company

[illegible] in [illegible] [illegible] this [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] This [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] considered [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] It [illegible] [illegible] the Government will [illegible] forward a sufficient number of arms and a sufficient quantity of ammunition, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] will enable the Inhabitants to protect themselves from the [illegible] [illegible] of the savages.

With high considerations of respect I am your Obt. Servt.

(Signed) [illegible] Wadsworth Majr. Genl.

[illegible] Division. Ohio Militia.

[illegible]

Head Quarters Cleveland Sept. 7th. 1812

Honble. Wm. Eustis.

Sir,

In addition to my former Letters to you from this place the exposed situation of our frontier compels me to solicit your attention. [illegible] [illegible] but we have few food [illegible] but a scanty supply of military stores; every munition of war (except 350 stand of Muskets) in possession of the force under my command hath been supplied by private citizens, many of them have advanced money for necessary supplies; but Sir arms cannot be found in this State fit for service & sufficiently numerous to equip one half our drafted militia. Application hath been made under [illegible] direction to the agent at Pittsburg Mr. Johnson for arms, [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] must be qualified [illegible] general [illegible] on this [illegible] the people [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] have been [illegible] [illegible] in Portage County -- the whole force this station is composed [illegible] of the Militia troops, [illegible] -- all [illegible] country [illegible] [illegible] -- we have one iron cannon [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] If [illegible] in the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that the Indians are collecting in the [illegible] territory in great numbers, but cannot learn their destination.

(Signed) Elijah Wadsworth, Majr. Genl.

4th. Division

[illegible]

Portage Head Quarters Septr. 17th. 1812

Honorable Mr. Eustis.

Sir,

Mr. Huntington arrived [illegible] in Camp with the pleasing intelligence that the Government [illegible] taking the most effectual [illegible] to regain the Territory which has been lost. To the [illegible] [illegible] it is of the first importance [illegible] the enemy are driven from the Territory previous to the setting in of winter, or many of the inhabitants will recross the Ohio and perhaps the Mountains. The distresses occasioned by the capitulation is beyond description; every day [illegible]

by express from Genl. Wolcot Indian Agent, that the [illegible]
& British crossed from Malden on the 18th or 19th [illegible]
The Indians amount to 2,000. The Regulars 100 & Militia [illegible]
that a party might leave the main body in Detroit, to [illegible]
Huron & attack the troops stationed there, by express I [illegible]
commandant to abandon the expedition to the rapids (if he had not already
accomplished it) for a few days to increase his spies, double his
guards, & prepare for an attack. The express I expect will return this
evening.

If the Agent at Sandusky had informed me that the property had
not been removed previous to his leaving there it might without the loss
of a man been secured, at the time my first troops arrived at Cleveland.

Three men were killed by a party of Indians eight miles eastwardly
of Mansfield. They were from Genl. Beall Camp -- had been on a scout,
& returning home, lodged at the house that was attacked. Indians to the
number of forty secreted themselves on either side of a road leading
from the house to a spring, four of the men went about day-light to the
water, when the Indians rose and fired upon them, killed three of them
& one has not been heard of since -- five still remained in the house
who repulsed every attack made by the Indians, killed two of them (and
probably more from the appearance of the blood) only one of which was
left behind. In the top of his hat was a scalp, which from appearance
had been recently taken. His pack contained a uniform coat. The
Indian was recognized to be one of those that had been living at
Upper Sandusky & but a few days previous was marched through Mansfield with
others of his tribe to be protected by the Government. No reliance
can be placed on their friendship. With one hand they tender the white
man, with the other they grasp the dagger. They threaten to

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Pittsburgh [illegible] for transporting [illegible] -- [illegible]

I have the honor to be [illegible]

(Signed) [illegible]

[illegible] Ohio [illegible]

No. 39.

Pittsburgh [illegible]

[illegible]

Sir.

According to my instructions [illegible] I have [illegible] at this place, [illegible] of conveyance, [illegible] the people are [illegible] assistance appears to be necessary.

I have the honor to be Your Obt. Servt.

Ensign [illegible] U.S.N.

No 27.

Provision return of Lieut. Milton et. al., not transcribed.

No. 28.

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Head Quarters Cleveland Sept. 20 1812

Miran Hench [illegible] Engr

Sir

You will deliver over to the contractor all the provisions including Beef cattle, which have been purchased by my order, for the supply of the troops, while stationed at this place, which are now in Your possession taking his receipt for the same

Copy signed E W

No. 29.

29

Port Age Camp OctoBer 22d. A 1812

Maj general Wadsworth

agreeaBle to Orders We Keep one Sentanal at the Store house. But Weareverymuch in Want of Some Blankets as We had no orders to fetch any And the men Begin to Complain as they have no Winter Cloath and have reseved not Any Pay: the men[n] that I have here has Bin on Constant Duty Two months:

Leut Clendening is a Bout to Prepare teams to take the Property from the Publick store and thenen wish to gard the wagons through to head quarters at huron:

Lothrop Seymour Leut

I would recommend the greatest vigilence on the protection of our frontiere as I am convinced the most Serious attaccks are inedetated against all the vulnitable parts of it in rapid succession. The fate Chihagor or Ft. Dearborn I presume is Known since writting the forgoing I have Just learned by that a number of Indians returned to Maldon on the

[illegible]

[illegible] when a [illegible] as far as [illegible] the [illegible] in [illegible] number of [illegible] been [illegible] [illegible] there [illegible] killed [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] they had [illegible] on their [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible] 1812

Sir:

In [illegible] that I left Detroit & came to [illegible] and arrived [illegible] at this place this morning. During my stay [illegible] I [illegible] information [illegible] as to the [illegible] of the enemy. They have [illegible] [illegible] beginning [illegible] Fort [illegible] hostilities [illegible] the whole [illegible]. [illegible] this information [illegible] by a [illegible] on our army [illegible] Detroit [illegible] that this [illegible] only extended to the Indian [illegible]. [illegible] Since I came to this place I am informed by the [illegible] at this place [illegible] Wadsworth that he is well assured that [illegible] place at all. I am of opinion that Ft. Wayne ought to be [illegible] reinforced if not [illegible] as a considerable number of Indians [illegible] that place from Ft. [illegible] of [illegible]. [illegible] Vincennes & Ft. Massac ought also to be strengthened. [illegible] there is no doubt but they are determined to reduce those places [illegible]. I am of opinion that the enemy are at this time [illegible] at the foot of the rapids of Miami in order to [illegible] the passage

[illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] at the time [illegible] property [illegible] [illegible] this [illegible] above property has been delivered over to the [illegible] of the [illegible]

Cleveland Cuyahoga County County Seat, [illegible] 1812

[illegible] Lieut. Col

1st [illegible] 4th. Divn [illegible]

[illegible] State of Ohio

[illegible]

[illegible] August [illegible] 1812

Sir

The Claim which I have on Mr. [illegible] for a rifle which I left in his possession [illegible] store some time in the month of [illegible] and authorised him to sell it on the Conditions [illegible] to have all he got abot 16 [illegible] for his Commission. It was further agreed that I would take my pay in goods out of sd [illegible] store or in wheat [illegible] there is no witness to this agreement -- Some time in Oct following I called on Mr. [illegible] and he informed me that he had sold the rifle for a watch and three dollars in money the bargain did not agree with my intentions and the watch I thought of little value and did not accept it -- He then told me he would buy the rifle for [illegible] or [illegible] would satisfy me according to the first agreement. Since then I have not seen Mr. [illegible] but I wrote to him at [illegible] requesting my pay [illegible] wrote to me in answer and said that he was a Clerk for [illegible] in his store and that he would never account to me for the rifle -- I went

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